

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 09567 291753Z
ACTION NEA-10

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C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 09567

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, EG, IS, US
SUBJECT: NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE ON U.S. USE OF
- ISRAELI AIR BASE IN SINAI

REF: (A) STATE 79922, (B) CAIRO 9471

1. AS I SUSPECTED WOULD BE THE CASE, VP MUBARAK TOLD ME THIS MORNING HE HAD HEARD ABOUT THE DREW MIDDLETON ARTICLE ALLEGING USAF AIRCRAFT HAVE USED ISRAELI ETZION AIR BASE IN SINAI FOR LAUNCHING RECONNAISSANCE MISSIONS. HE WANTED TO KNOW IF REPORT IS TRUE. I ASSURED HIM THAT U.S. HAS NOT USED ISRAELI BASES IN SINAI FOR ANY PURPOSES AND NOTED DEPT'S DENIAL HAD BEEN PUBLISHED BY NYT ON MARCH 28.

2. MUBARAK SAID HE WAS GLAD TO HEAR THIS, SINCE REPORT HAD CAUSED SOME UNEASINESS HERE. "SOME PEOPLE" (UNSPECIFIED) WERE READING IT IN TERMS OF USG SUPPORT FOR ISRAELI DEMAND TO RETAIN ETZION AIR BASE. HE, MUBARAK, HAD ASSURED THEM THAT GOE DOES NOT BELIEVE THIS, BUT OUR CONFIRMATION THAT USAF HAS NOT USED ISRAELI BASES IN SINAI WILL BE HELPFUL IN ALLAYING CONCERNS WHICH INITIAL NYT REPORT HAS AROUSED IN SOME QUARTERS. EILTS

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Message Attributes

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